

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
ABSTRACT

Agriculture & Cooperation Department – Seed Regulation Cell –  
Constitute Compensation Committees at State Level and District level for  
the purpose of addressing the farmers complaints regarding the failure of  
crops due to poor quality seeds – Orders – Issued.

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AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION (FP.II.1) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 1117

Dated:01/10/2011.

Read :

From the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad  
Lr.No.SRC(1)/714/2011, Dt.24/8/2011.

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O R D E R :

In the reference read above, the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad has stated that several field complaints on poor performance / Crop failure of the seed supplied by the Seed Companies / Government Agencies are being received from farmers across the State and requested the Government to constitute suitable Compensation Committees at State Level and District Level for the purpose of addressing the farmers complaints on the above subject matter so as to fix liability on the companies to pay and realize the compensation to affected farmers in respect of crops other than cotton crop in absence of the provision under the seed laws duly holding arbitration with the farmers.

2. The matter has been examined in detailed and it was observed that the Union of India passed Seed Act as long ago as in 1966. That apart, the Government of India issued Seed (Control) order 1983 by exercising its power under the provisions of Essential Commodities 1955. Both the said laws do not contain any provision for payment of compensation to the loss suffered by the farmers due to the default of seed producers.

3. With the onset of Green revolution, there is a considerable change in the pattern of seed usage i.e. preference for Hybrid Seeds in many crops in lieu of varietal seed of conventional type. During further course of time, several seed producers have come out various types of hybrids in many more crops. Since farmers are adopting hybrid seeds it is now required for the farmers to purchase seed every season from the seed producer as against the earlier system of producing the seed by the farmer himself.

4. Eventually, several problems touching the physical purity, genetic purity and some other defects relating to the quality of seed have been cropping up from time to time every year. The said problem has accentuated particularly after the year 2000. Many a time farmers have been expressing their grievance and seeking the help from the Government to fix the responsibility on the concerned seed producer for the supply of defective seed.

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5. Considering the problem, the State requested the GoI to include a clause on compensation in the proposed seed bill which has been presented in the parliament earlier. Inturn the GOI incorporated the said clause for compensation in draft seed bill. However, the said draft seed bill still pending before the Parliament.

6. The trade and commerce in, and the production, supply and distribution of seeds is part of list 3 of 7<sup>th</sup> schedule of the Constitution of India, where, the state has concurrent power to bring out a legislation in that regard. Though seeds of all food crops and commercial crops have been declared as essential commodity under Essential Commodities Act 1955, but no statute or order has been made so far by the Government of India.

7. The menace of supply of spurious, defective seeds has been playing loose with the farmers and consequently the farmers who are in distress are put to serious suffering. Several time, farmers organisation have been ventilating the said issue before the Government for redressal. In respect of cotton seed, the state has already passed an enactment called A.P Cotton Seeds (Regulation of Supply Distribution, Sale and Fixation of Sale Price) Act, 2007 containing a provision for redressal of the grievance of farmers in the event of supply of spurious/defective seeds by the producers.

8. Now therefore, in exercise of the executive powers of the state tracing from article 162 of the Constitution of India, Government of Andhra Pradesh took a policy decision to constitute district level committee to go into the complains of the farmers, individual or general in respect of supply of spurious or defective seed after due procedure, fix the responsibility of compensation/damages on the seed producer concerned, and also to constitute state level committee as an Appellate Authority. The decision of the said committees is final and shall be binding on both the parties.

9. The composition of the said District Level Committee shall be,

The District Collector	-	Chairman
The District Jt. Director of Agriculture	-	Member /Convenor
The District Horticultural officer	-	Member
The concerned crop Scientist (ANGRAU/APHU)	-	Member
The Representative of Farmers		
to be nominated by the District Collector	-	Member.
The Representative of Seed Growers at district Level		
to be nominated by the District Collector	-	Member

10. The composition of State Level Committee shall be,

The Commission & Director of Agriculture, AP	-	Chairman
The Director of Research, ANGRAU/APHU	-	Member.
The Addl. Director of Agriculture (Seeds)	-	Member/Convenor

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The Addl. Director of Horticulture (Seeds) - Member.  
The Representative of Farmers to be nominated  
by the Commissioner & Director of Agriculture - Member.  
The Representative of Seed Growers State Level  
to be nominated by the Commissioner &  
Director of Agriculture - Member,

11. The above order shall come into force with immediate effect.

12. The Commissioner and Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad shall take necessary action accordingly.

( BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

V.NAGI REDDY  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To  
The Commissioner & Director of Agriculture, Hyderabad.  
Copy to:  
Addl. Secretary to CM.  
OSD to Dy. C.M.  
P.S. to Prl. Secy. (Agri.)  
SF/SCs

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.